

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action the claims were all rejected as being obvious in view of the disclosures of the cited Parulski, Rissman, and Nagasaki references, and Claim 58 was rejected because of its form. However, by this response, the only independent claims which have been retained are amended Claims 38 and 55, while Claim 58 has been cancelled and Claims 59-68 have been added. All of the pending claims are believed to be patentable over the prior art for the reasons given below.

In particular, amended Claim 38 is directed to an image processing system in which an image input apparatus and a printing apparatus are connected via a serial bus. The image input apparatus obtains type information (configuration) of the printing apparatus, in response to an ON operation of the image processing system or a connection between the image input apparatus and the printing apparatus (see page 54, lines 12-18, page 79, lines 7-22), and determines whether or not to convert the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing based on the type information. The image input apparatus converts the JPEG coded image data into the image data for printing based on a determination result, and transmits the image data for printing to the printing apparatus. On the other hand, if it is determined that the JPEG coded image data is not converted, the image input apparatus transmits the JPEG coded image data to the printing apparatus (see page 64, line 20 through page 65, line 7). The printing apparatus receives the JPEG coded image data or the image data for printing transmitted from the image input apparatus, stores it to a buffer, and converts the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing if the buffer holds the JPEG coded image data. Also, the printing apparatus prints an

image based on the converted image data, and prints an image based on the image data for printing held in the buffer, if the buffer holds the image data for printing (Fig. 34B).

Similarly, independent Claim 55 is a method claim corresponding to Claim 38.

In new independent Claim 59 the image input apparatus can convert the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing using the printing apparatus, and the printing apparatus also can convert the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing. The printing apparatus determines which of the image input apparatus and the printing apparatus converts the JPEG coded image data into the image data for printing, and in a case that it is determined that the image input apparatus converts the JPEG coded image data into the image data for printing, the printing apparatus transmits a request for data conversion of the JPEG coded image data to the image input apparatus (S3718 in Fig. 35B).

Independent Claim 61 is a method claim corresponding to Claim 59, while in independent Claim 62 the printing apparatus receives image data from an apparatus to which the printing apparatus is connected, and converts JPEG coded image data into image data for printing to print an image, in a case that the received image data is the JPEG coded image data. The image input apparatus is the same as is recited in Claim 38. Particularly, the image input apparatus obtains type information of the printing apparatus, in response to an ON operation of the image processing system or a connection between the image input apparatus and the printing apparatus, and determines whether or not to convert the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing using the printing apparatus, based on the type information.

Finally, Claim 63 is a method claim corresponding to Claim 62, Claim 64 is similar to Claim 38, Claim 66 is similar to Claim 59, and Claims 65 and 68 are method claims corresponding to Claims 64 and 66, respectively.

Referring now to the cited rejecting references, the Parulski publication is a continuation-in part of an application No. 08/833,106 filed on April 4, 1997, wherein that application does not include the description (the type of printer, ink, and receiver media can be communicated from the printer 30 to digital camera 10) of paragraph [0051] of the Parulski publication, but only discloses that the camera receives variable parameters of the printer from the printer. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the Parulski reference, to the extent that it constitutes prior art, does not disclose that a digital camera obtains type information (configuration) of a printer, in response to the power on of the printer or a connection between the digital camera and the printer. Furthermore, the Parulski reference can not be deemed to disclose that the camera determines whether or not to convert the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing based on the type information of the printer, and converts the JPEG coded image data into the image data for printing based on a determination result and transmits the image data for printing to the printing apparatus, or transmits the JPEG coded image data to the printer if it is determined that the JPEG coded image data is not converted. Accordingly, it is seen that none of these concepts which form parts of Applicant's claims are disclosed by the Parulski reference.

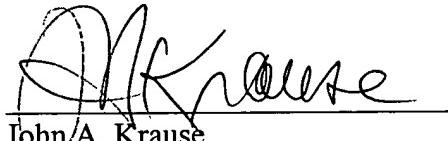
Moreover, Applicant notes that the Rissman and Nagasaki references do not overcome these deficiencies as a rejecting reference of the cited Parulski publication. Also, none of the references disclose that a printer determines which of a camera and a printer converts

JPEG coded image data into image data for printing, and in a case that it is determined that the camera converts the JPEG coded image data into the image data for printing, the printer transmits a request for data conversion of the JPEG coded image data to the camera, as in Claim 59.

For these reasons, it is believed that the claims as now presented are all allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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